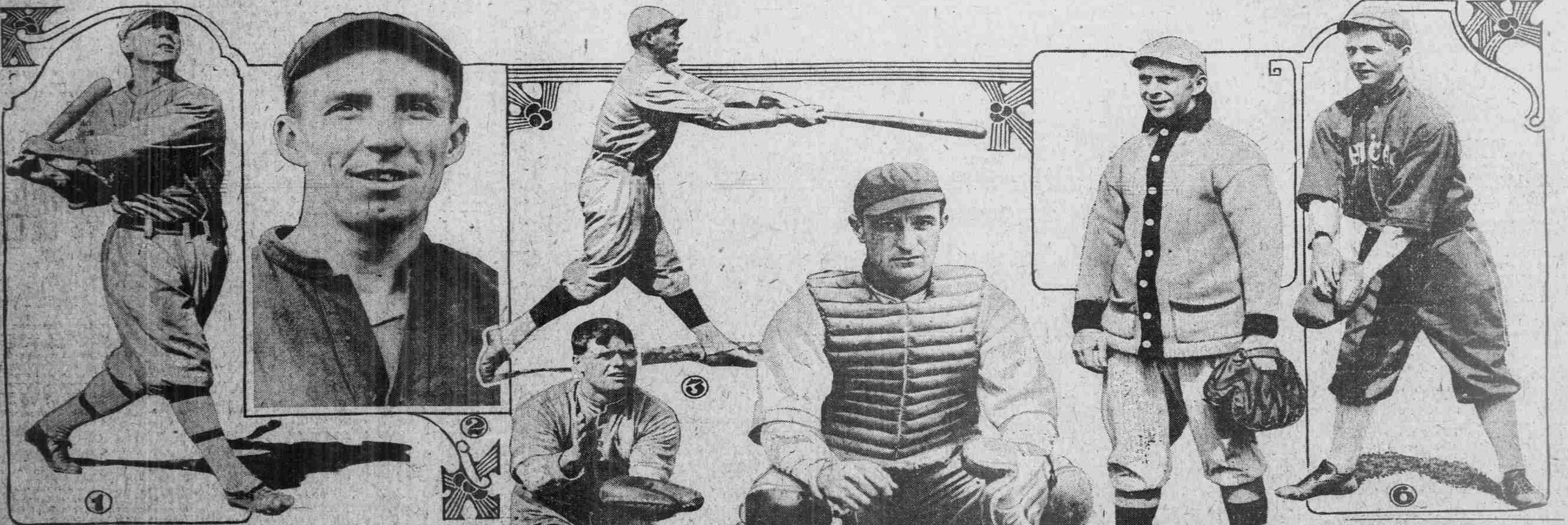


# WHAT SPORTSMEN ARE TALKING ABOUT



## GOOD BACKSTOPS SEEM TO BE PLENTIFUL IN BIG LEAGUES



Photos by American Press Association.

1—Schanz, Athletics. 2—Gowdy, Braves. 3—Snyder, Cardinals. 4—Archer, Cubs. 5—Killifer, Phillies. 6—Schalk, White Sox. 7—Gibson, Pirates.

**By TOMMY CLARK.**  
GOOD catchers seem to be plentiful in the big leagues this season. Look over the list and see for yourself. Nearly every club in the majors has at least one star, or perhaps two. Recently several scouts employed by the leading clubs have reported that there were any number of good receivers in the minors who in a season or two in the big circuits would compare with the best. Of course no club will pass up an Archer or a Schalk, so next year we may expect to see a number of first string catchers.

A glance over the list of the receivers gives the fan a good line on the number of stars who are shining behind the bat for the big league clubs. In the National, Philadelphia has two good ones in Killifer and Burns. The former was injured recently, but Burns jumped in and handled the Quaker pitchers in masterly style. Of course he does not class with Killifer. The latter is one of the best men in the present baseball organization. Cincinnati has two stars in Wingo and

Clark. St. Louis has a good pair in Snyder and Ganzales. The former is the best in the National league. New York hasn't any cracks. Meyers is slowing up, and it would not be surprising to hear of him being let out next season. Davies, McGraw's youngster, is inexperienced, but the Giants' leader expects big things from him later.

Brooklyn has a real star in Miller, and the youngster McCarty has been showing up well now and again. The Chicago Cubs are well fixed behind the bat. Archer and Bresnahan are two of the best in the game. Pittsburgh boasts of Gibson, Murphy and Costello. The former is a sturdy veteran and has been putting up a fine game this season. The others are coming along very nicely.

Gowdy, Boston's star, is putting up his usual brilliant game. While he has not done as well as he did last year, he must be classed with the best. In the American league Chicago has the star of the circuit in Schalk. Washington has two good ones in Henry and Almsworth. Williams, a third string backstop, has also put up a fairly good game. New York has a steady man in Numamaker, and so has

### Some of the Leading Catchers in the National and American Leagues

Cleveland in Egan. St. Louis has a good man in Agnew and another in Severid. Philadelphia has the second best catcher in Ben Johnson's circuit in Shanks. Mack tried to make a third baseman out of him. He played fairly well, but has been placed back in his regular position.

Boston has two reliable men in Carrigan and Cady, while Detroit's receiving end is well looked after by Stansage and Baker. It can easily be seen from this list that there are many good backstops in the American and National leagues. There are also a number of cracks in the Federal league.

### A Slugger Who Wore Wooden Mitt

WHEN Jim Corbett left Frisco to box Jake Kilrain in New Orleans his one big desire was to give New York the once over, and after the bout he did so.

Corbett went to the big city with Bill Delaney, who knew New York from one end to the other. Jim was anxious to see all the sights, and Bill was right there. He took Corbett to the Bowery, which at that time was a very lively place and no place for a minister's son.

The first place they visited was a music hall, where fights were held every evening. A tough young bird, weighing about 150 pounds, held forth there and the management offered \$50 to any one who could stick four rounds with him.

Sailors came in droves every night, and at least three of them would try to cop the gilt, but no one ever got away with it. This night Corbett saw three of them go out with one punch, and he told Delaney he wanted to shake hands with the music hall champ as he was the hardest hitter he had ever seen.

Delaney took Jim behind the scenes and introduced him to the manager. "I think you're the greatest hitter I ever saw," piped Corbett. "You'll be champion of the world within a year, and I want to shake your hand."

As Corbett said this the young boxer held out his right hand and replied: "So would you, Mr. Corbett, if you had this," and he handed Corbett the wooden glove which he wore on his right hand, the mabogany mitt he knocked the sailors cold with.

### GOLF BECOMING POPULAR GAME

SAID a Scotch born golf professional who recently arrived on this side to take up a position at a golf club. "There's not a kid in Scotland more than five years of age who has not played golf. In England the same can be said of the kids and cricket. You can't turn around in Scotland without stepping on golf links, and, naturally, everybody plays. My family lived near one of the big courses, and we boys caddied, played, talked and watched big matches and lived on golf as far back as I can remember. Do you wonder that I have made it my profession? I have three brothers in this country, and we have all chosen golf as the best bet."

All of which the average golfer can readily understand. However, baseball is the juvenile game in America. It probably will remain so for all time, but the fact is becoming more apparent every year that golf is coming second in point of interest to the average American boy.

**WAGNER IS INTO EVERYTHING.** HANS WAGNER, shortstop of the Pittsburgh National league team, is also a chicken fancier, dog breeder, fisherman and in winter a basket ball player.

### Guy Nickalls Will Again Handle Yale Oarsmen



Photo by American Press Association.

GUY NICKALLS.

RECENTLY it was reported that Guy Nickalls would not return to Yale university to handle the blue oarsmen, but the rumor was without foundation. Nickalls will again be on hand, and he predicts he will produce a winning crew for 1915.

### "YOUNGSTERS, FOR ME," SAYS ROGER BRESNAHAN

"It is the youngsters for me from now on; then I know they will act and do as I tell them and in time form a pennant winning organization for Chicago."

This was the gist of Manager Bresnahan's discussion on future prospects for the Chicago Cubs. He is dissatisfied with the veterans, not only because the majority of the players on the present Cub team are "old fellows," but because he likes to build up a club to play, act and do according to the Roger Bresnahan rules of the national pastime.

"Give me enough young fellows—not stars of the first water, but common horse sense ball players—and in time I'll have a flag winning club," continued Bresnahan. "All I want them to do is play according to the rules I set down. Being youngsters, they will be anxious to make good and establish a reputation for themselves, and the result will be that they will fight. If they lose under these conditions then I will be satisfied."

"I don't want to say anything detrimental about the old timers on the present Cub team. Their past record shows that they can deliver, but they don't play my kind of baseball, and as every manager has a different idea of how the game should be played the boys don't like to have me butting in on their pet schemes. However, as long as I am running the club it is not good policy to have clashes over plays and players, so it is only natural that I should want my own men around me."

### OPERATION HELPED BUCK WEAVER

SPEAKING of Manager McCredie of the Portland trading team to the Tigers because Walter refused to submit to an operation for the removal of his tonsils, Bunney Brief declares that Buck Weaver, earning a living for himself and Comiskey with the White Sox, is a 100 per cent better player for a similar operation he underwent in Los Angeles when the club was there training last spring.

Weaver, according to Brief, is knocking the best season since he was hit at the door of the majors, and all because he left a couple of ounces of his anatomy to be bottled by a Los Angeles doctor and forwarded to Chicago.

### CLARK GRIFFITH SWEET ON GHARRITY.

CATCHER GHARRITY of the Minneapolis team is the property of the Nationals and will be called in by Griffith at the end of the American association season. Griff thinks he's one of the best in the business.

### \$150,000 GYM FOR INDIANA UNIVERSITY.

INDIANA university will build at once a \$150,000 gymnasium. The lower floor will have a swimming pool 30 by 90 feet, boxing, wrestling and handball sections, as well as bowling alleys, shower baths, etc. The gymnasium on the second floor will be 90 by 160 feet and will accommodate 5,000 spectators. An indoor field will be located at the rear of the building.

### EXPECT BIG THINGS FROM PITCHER COLE



Photo by American Press Association.

KING COLE.

MANAGER BILL DONOVAN of the Yanks says King Cole will come pretty near being the leading pitcher in the American league next season. Cole has everything and with proper coaching he will make a great name for himself on the mound in 1915.

### TO PLAY HANDICAP BILLIARD GAMES

WITH William F. Hoppe holding the 14.1, 13.1 and 13.2 ball line championship so securely that there apparently is little chance of any of the veterans or younger players taking the honors from him, contests for the world's title no longer attract as in the palmy days of Jacob Schaefer, Frank Ives, George Slosson and other famous cueists.

For some reason or other handicap matches at billiards have not been much in vogue between the leading players in this country, although for many years they have been popular with the leading British players. There are few other branches of sport in which handicaps are not made the medium of equalization in skill. The end aimed at is close competition, and when this obtains the interest of the fan is increased.

It is planned to put Champion Hoppe on the scratch mark with a rating of 100 and rate the other players according to their skill. Others included in the list are George F. Slosson, Koji Yamada, George Sutton, Ors Morningstar, Harry F. Cline, Albert G. Cutler, Al Taylor, Jacob Schaefer, Marcus Catton, Welker Cochran and Joseph Mayer, winner of the last amateur championship, who is now included in the professional ranks.

This plan undoubtedly will be a big help to the rising players, as it would give them a chance to meet all the veterans in matches that would mean a great deal more than mere exhibitions.

### WINS TWO OF THREE BETS, BUT LOSES \$10 IN END.

"HEY, you," said one of those "sure" thing friends, "if you want to make a bit of money bet on Valentine and St. Isidore." The friend explained to the boob that Valentine was a "certain winner" in the fifth race at the Aqueduct track and that St. Isidore was ditto in the sixth.

"Bet Valentine straight, and bet St. Isidore straight, place."

And so the boob did.

He bet \$25 on Valentine to win and \$25 on St. Isidore to win and also \$25 on St. Isidore for place.

Well, Valentine lost, but St. Isidore won his race. The boob lost the \$25 on Valentine, but he won both bets on St. Isidore.

Now you'll presume that having won two bets and lost one that the boob came out ahead. Well, he didn't. He lost money on his three wagers because St. Isidore paid only 3 to 5 to win and nothing for place. In other words, the boob put up \$75, won two out of three bets and lost a total of \$10.

Beat the ponies, eh.

### Where the Old Athletics Are

CONNIE MACK'S present Athletics baseball team includes only eight of the players who last year won the American league championship and were beaten in four straight games by the Boston Braves in the world's series.

Right Fielder Murphy is with the White Sox, so also is Second Baseman

Eddie Collins. Shortstop Harry and Pitcher Pennock are with the Boston Red Sox. Pitcher Shawkey is with the New York Americans. Pitcher Bender was with the Baltimore Federals until recently. Pitcher Plank is with the St. Louis Federals and Home Run Baker is playing in the Delaware County league, a semi-professional organization outside of Philadelphia.

### Jim Scott Is In Good Form This Season



Photo by American Press Association.

JIM SCOTT.

SINCE the start of the 1915 campaign "Death Valley" Jim Scott has twirled great ball for the Chicago Americans. His slosters have puzzled many of the leading batsmen in Ben Johnson's circuit.